

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A method ~~for~~of placing at least one image on a device and associating one or more additional images to the image based on preselected criteria, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining hardware information from the device, wherein the hardware information includes at least one of device type, storage device size, and amount of random access memory;

~~creating~~applying an imaging server policy, wherein the imaging server policy comprises at least one rule that is applied to the device based on the hardware information;

~~creating~~identifying, based on the at least one rule, the at least one image of that is to be placed on the device, wherein the at least one image comprises at least one of an operating system and an application;

placing a representation of the at least one image of the device into a directory;

associating the one or more additional images to the at least one image;

creating ~~customizing the at least one image to form~~ at least one customized image, wherein the at least one customized image comprises the at least one image of the device and the one or more additional images; and

placing the at least one customized image on the device.

2. (*Previously Presented*) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of creating a device object to represent the device in the directory.

3. (*Original*) The method of claim 2 wherein at least one policy is associated with the device object.

4. (*Previously Presented*) The method of claim 2, wherein the at least one image is associated with the device object.

5. *(Previously Presented)* The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of creating at least one object in the directory and associating the at least one image of the device with the at least one object.

6. *(Previously Presented)* The method of claim 1, further comprising:
creating a base image of the device that does not comprise the operating system and the application;
associating the at least one image of the device and the one or more additional images to the base image; and
updating the customized image to comprise the base image of the device, the at least one image of the device, and the one or more additional images.

7. *(Previously Presented)* The method of claim 1, wherein the step of customizing the at least one image further comprises defining one or more file sets, wherein the file sets are inserted into a corresponding one of the at least one image.

8. *(Previously Presented)* The method of claim 1, further comprising:
creating one or more application images;
defining one or more user characteristics;
associating the one or more application images to the one or more user characteristics;
and
inserting the one or more application images into corresponding ones of the at least one image.

9. *(Original)* The method of claim 1 wherein the device comprises a workstation.

10. *(Previously Presented)* The method of claim 5, wherein the step of associating the at least one image of the device with at least one object in the directory comprises establishing at least one relationship with at least one policy in the directory.

11. (*Previously Presented*) The method of claim 2 further comprising creating an image object and directly associating the image object with the device object, wherein at least one specified image is applied to the device regardless of the at least one rule specified in the imaging server policy.

12. *Cancelled*

13. (*Currently Amended*) A system for placing at least one image on a device and associating one or more additional images to the image based on a preselected criteria, the system comprising:

hardware information gathering means for obtaining hardware information from the device, wherein the hardware information includes at least one of device type, storage device size, and amount of random access memory;

storage means for storing an imaging server policy wherein the imaging server policy comprises at least one rule that is applied to the device based on the hardware information;

creating means for creating, based on the at least one rule, the at least one image to be placed on of the device, wherein the at least one image comprises at least one of an operating system and an application;

placement means for placing a representation of the at least one image of the device into a directory;

associating means for associating the one or more additional images to the at least one image;

customization means for creating customizing the at least one image to form at least one customized image, wherein the at least one customized image comprises the at least one image of the device and the one or more additional images; and

device placement means for placing the at least one customized image on the device.

14. (*Previously Presented*) The system of claim 13, further comprising a device object

that represents the device in the directory.

15. *(Original)* The system of claim 14 wherein at least one policy is associated with the device object.

16. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 14 wherein the at least one image is associated with the device object.

17. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 13 further comprising object creating means for creating at least one object in the directory and association means for associating the at least one image of the device with the at least one object in the directory.

18. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 13, further comprising:
base image creating means for creating a based image of the device that does not comprise the operating system and the application;
base image associating means for associating the at least one image of the device and the one or more additional images to the base image; and
updating means for updating the at least one customized image to comprise the base image of the device, the at least one image of the device, and the one or more additional images.

19. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 13, wherein the customization means further comprises definition means for defining one or more file sets and wherein the one or more file sets are inserted into a corresponding one of the at least one image.

20. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 13, further comprising:
application image creating means for creating one or more application images;
user characteristic defining means for defining one or more user characteristics;
user characteristic associating means for associating the one or more application images to the one or more user characteristics; and

inserting means for inserting the one or more application images into corresponding ones of the at least one image.

21. *(Original)* The system of claim 13 wherein the device comprises a workstation.

22. *(Original)* The system of claim 17 wherein the association means comprises establishing means for establishing at least one relationship with at least one policy in the directory.

23. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 14 further comprising image object creating means for creating an image object and direct association means for directly associating the image object with the device object, wherein at least one specified image is applied to the device regardless of the at least one rule specified in the image server policy.

24. *Cancelled*

25. *(Currently Amended)* The method of claim 1, wherein the hardware information is obtained from the device during a boot process and the customized image is placed on the device during a the boot process.

26. *(Currently Amended)* The system of claim 13, wherein the hardware information gathering means obtains the hardware information from the device during a boot process and the device placement means places the customized image on the device during a the boot process.

27. *(New)* A method of dynamically customizing at least one image that is placed on a device, wherein the at least one image includes a plurality of files, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining hardware information from the device, wherein the hardware information includes at least one of device type, storage device size, and amount of random access memory;

defining one or more file sets to include selected ones of the plurality of files;
applying an imaging server policy, wherein the imaging server policy comprises at least one rule that is applied to the device based on the hardware information;
identifying, based on the at least one rule, the at least one image that is to be placed on the device;
identifying, based on the at least one rule, the one or more file sets to be inserted in the at least one image;
placing a representation of the at least one image of the device into a directory; and
placing the at least one image on the device.